

Is this truly the path we wish to travel in the future? Government monitoring of what private citizens do in their own homes? Is Big Brother coming to town and bringing his rule of fear and domestic espionage? Our rights are not based in need - we don't have to justify them to anybody, and there's never justification for trying to bypass them.

Are we so afraid to die that we would dishonor the memories of all those that have given their lives in the name of freedom? Look out over Arlington and think of all those there who fought to give their children the freedoms that are about to be sacrificed. If you could speak to them, how would you explain that the freedoms they gave their lives for are going away because we're too afraid of a chance of an early death that's less likely than drowning in our own bathtubs?

You need not listen to me alone. Many respected people throughout history have rejected such proposals categorically.

"You and I are told we must choose between a left or right, but I suggest there is no such thing as a left or right. There is only an up or down. Up to man's age-old dream, the maximum of individual freedom consistent with order, or down to the ant heap of totalitarianism. Regardless of their sincerity, their humanitarian motives, those who would sacrifice freedom for security have embarked on this downward path. Plutarch warned, 'The real destroyer of the liberties of the people is he who spreads among them bounties, donations and benefits.'" ~Ronald Reagan

"I believe there are more instances of abridgment of freedom of the people by gradual and silent encroachments of those in power than by violent and sudden usurpations." ~James Madison

"The smallest minority on earth is the individual. Those who deny individual rights cannot claim to be defenders of minorities."
~Ayn Rand

"We are willing enough to praise freedom when she is safely tucked away in the past and cannot be a nuisance. In the present, amidst dangers whose outcome we cannot foresee, we get nervous about her, and admit censorship." ~E. M. Forster

"Do not do an immoral thing for moral reasons." ~Thomas Hardy

"We always tend to think of historical tragedy as failing to get what we want, but if we study history we find that the worst tragedies occurred when people got what they wanted... and it turned out to be the wrong objective." ~Henry Kissinger

"It stands to reason that where there's sacrifice, there's someone collecting sacrificial offerings. Where there's service, there's someone being served. The man who speaks to you of sacrifice, speaks of slaves and masters. And intends to be the master." ~Ayn Rand

"Individual rights are not subject to a public vote; a majority has no right to vote away the rights of a minority; the political function of rights is precisely to protect minorities from oppression by majorities (and the smallest minority on earth is the individual)." ~Ayn Rand

"Of liberty I would say that, in the whole plenitude of its extent, it is unobstructed action according to our will. But rightful liberty is unobstructed action according to our will within limits drawn around us by the equal rights of others. I do not add 'within the limits of the law,' because law is often but the tyrant's will, and always so when it violates the right of an individual." ~Thomas Jefferson

"I would rather be exposed to the inconveniences attending too much liberty than to those attending too small a degree of it." ~Thomas Jefferson